

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT
Declaration for Patent Applicant



As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: 1 Focusing Method, Method of Detecting Focal Point Deviation, Method of Forming Master of Data Storage Medium, Focusing Control Unit, Unit for Detecting Focal Point Deviation, and Unit for Forming Master of Data Storage Medium

the specification of which 2 (file no. _____)

(check at least one) 3 ☐ is attached hereto
4 ☒ was filed on Nov. 15, 2000 as (5) U.S. Application Serial No. 09/711,905
6 ☐ and was amended on _____ (if applicable)

Use this portion only if you are entering the U.S. National phase based on a PCT International Application designating the U.S.	7 <input type="checkbox"/>	was filed as PCT international application
	8	Number _____
	9	on _____
	10	and was amended under PCT Article(s) 19 and/or 34 _____ (if applicable).

I hereby declare that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended, by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me which is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 or 365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date earlier than that of the application(s) on which priority is claimed.

Prior (Foreign) Application(s) any Priority Claims Under 35 U.S.C. 119 or 365 Priority Claimed

11a	<u>JAPAN</u>	<u>324848/1999</u>	<u>16/ 11/ 1999</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Country)	(Number)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes No
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Country)	(Number)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes No
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	(Country)	(Number)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes No

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.

Priority Claim(s) from U.S. Provisional Application(s) - I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

11b	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Application No.	Day/Month/Year Filed	Application No.	Day/Month/Year Filed
	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.			

Do not use this portion to identify a PCT application if the parent application is the U.S. National phase of the PCT application	I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) or under Title 35, United States Code, 365 of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which became available between filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.		
	12	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		(U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number)	(Parent Filing Date) Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto.		

I hereby appoint the following attorneys of the firm of Stevens, Davis, Miller & Mosher, L.L.P. as my attorneys of record with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office:

James E. Ledbetter, Reg. No. 28732; Thomas P. Pavelko, Reg. No. 31689; and Anthony P. Venturino, Reg. No. 31674.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION SHOULD BE SENT TO
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P., 1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 850, Washington, D.C. 20036,
TELEPHONE (202) 408-5100, FACSIMILE (202) 408-5200.

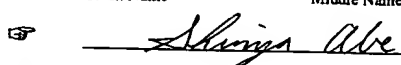
See page 2 for signature lines

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF T FORM

- line 1 Insert the same title as is used on the specification and in the assignment.
- line 2 Is optional but is provided so that you can use it to identify more readily an application prior to the time that the Patent Office application serial number is assigned. We suggest that the specification, drawings and declaration always bear a file number since it can help to get the papers together in case they become inadvertently separated. In instances where the specification is filed without a signed declaration form (under 37 CFR §1.53) a file number on a later-received separate form will assist us in associating it with the correct case.
- line 3 Check this box if the specification, claims and drawing (if any) are attached to this declaration form, e.g., when filing a new patent application.
- lines 4-5 Are only used in an instance where the application is already on file and the declaration form is being separately filed, e.g., when the application was originally filed without a signed declaration or where the Patent Office has required a new declaration because of a deficiency in the original declaration. In such an instance the Patent Office will require that lines 4 and 5 be completed with the filing date and application serial number already assigned.
- line 6 Is used in conjunction with line 5 but only when there have been one or more amendments to the specification or claims. Line 6 is also used when the Examiner requires a new declaration because claims inserted by amendment cover subject matter not originally claimed (37 CFR §1.67).
- lines 7-10 Are for PCT (Patent Cooperation Treaty) cases and are used only when you are entering the U.S. National phase (Chapter I or II) based upon a previously filed PCT International application designating the U.S.
- line 7 Check this box if this is a PCT National Phase application.
- line 8 Insert PCT International application number.
- line 9 Insert date of filing of PCT International application.
- line 10 Insert the date of all amendments filed in the PCT International application. Such amendments are optional, so this line at times will not be used.
- line 11a Is used in the following instances:
- (i) If a single priority is being claimed from a foreign application you need to list only the first-filed application; you do not need to list other countries if all applications were filed within one year of the U.S. filing.
 - (ii) If multiple priorities are being claimed, from a plurality of applications filed in one or more countries, you must list the first filed application for each aspect of the invention. Example: if aspect A of the invention was disclosed in an application filed 11 months earlier in country X and aspect B was disclosed 9 months earlier in an application filed in country Y, then the applications in both countries X and Y must be identified. Only the first application for each aspect of the invention needs to be identified provided all applications on that aspect were filed within one year prior to the U.S. filing.
 - (iii) If a non-priority application is being filed you must list all applications in all countries where corresponding foreign applications were filed more than one year prior to the U.S. filing. This is so the Examiner can check to see if any of those applications were published or patented early enough to be prior art against the U.S. application.
 - (iv) If there are more than two applications to be listed we suggest that you type in on this form only "See attached Schedule A" and then list all of the previous applications on an attached sheet.
- line 11b Is used to claim priority under 35 USC §119(e) based on a provisional application filed within one year of the filing of the instant application. More than one provisional application may be identified provided neither was filed more than one year earlier.
- line 12 This block is used only in instances where there is a previously filed U.S. non-provisional application which was copending at the time the present application was (or is being) filed. that previous application could be a U.S. non-provisional application or the National Phase of a PCT allocation. In such a case the present application may be entitled to the priority of the previous application's U.S. filing date (and consequently the foreign priority thereof) provided the present application is identified as a continuing application (continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part) of the earlier (parent) application. If the foregoing is applicable, please fill in one line for each such prior application.
- line 13 Type the inventor's proper legal name in the order specified, e.g., "John B. JONES" or "J. Bob JONES" if the inventor so prefers. It is not acceptable to use only initials such as "J. B. JONES."
- line 14 The inventor's "signature" may be his (or her) usual manner of signing but it is preferable that the inventor simply write his (or her) name in his (or her) own cursive handwriting in the same order as on line 14, e.g., given name, middle initial and Family name.
- line 15 Insert the actual date of signature.
- line 16 Insert simply the city and state or country, e.g., "Paris, France", of the inventor's residence, not citizenship. No street address or postal code is required on this line.
- line 17 Insert the inventor's citizenship. The statement of citizenship (or subject of) is a statutory requirement (35 USC §115). Simply the name of the country of citizenship, e.g., "Japan" is sufficient.
- line 18 Insert the inventor's mailing address. The purpose of requiring the post office address is to enable the Patent Office to communicate directly with the inventor if desired, such as in the case of death of the U.S. attorney. It should be the address where the inventor customarily receives his (or her) mail and should include the postal code. If applicable it can be the inventor's business address or address at place of employment.
- Applicants are reminded that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has very strict requirements as to proper execution of an application. The applicant should make sure that he reviews the declaration, prior to signing to make sure the declaration properly identifies the application and all relevant information; and should review the specification and claims (including drawings, if any) before signing the declaration. Failure to do so will require the filing of a supplemental declaration — 37 CFR §1.67(c).
- Any handwritten changes to the specification, claims or drawings must be in ink personally by all of the inventors prior to signing the declaration and the adjacent left margin must be initialed and dated by all of the inventors, e.g., "JBJ 6-9-91".
- Please let us know if there are any questions regarding proper completion of this form. Thank you.
- An assignment, a separate document requiring separate signature and dating may be enclosed. Please look for it and sign and date it in the same manner as in lines 15 and 16 above.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

PAGE 2 OF U.S.A. DECLARATION FORM

13a	Typewritten Full Name of Sole or First Inventor	<u>Shinya</u> <u>ABE</u>		
		Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
14a	Inventor's Signature			
15a	Date of Signature	<u>3 / 22 / 2001</u>		
		Month	Day	Year
16a	Residence	<u>Kadoma</u> <u>Osaka</u> <u>JAPAN</u>		
		City	State or Province	Country
17a	Citizenship	<u>Japan</u>		
18a	Post Office Address (Insert complete mailing address, including country)	<u>15-12-306 Doyama-cho, Kadoma, Osaka 571-0059, JAPAN</u>		
13b	Typewritten Full Name of Sole or Second Inventor			
		Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
14b	Inventor's Signature			
15b	Date of Signature			
		Month	Day	Year
16b	Residence			
		City	State or Province	Country
17b	Citizenship			
18b	Post Office Address (Insert complete mailing address, including country)			
13c	Typewritten Full Name of Sole or Third Inventor			
		Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
14c	Inventor's Signature			
15c	Date of Signature			
		Month	Day	Year
16c	Residence			
		City	State or Province	Country
17c	Citizenship			
18c	Post Office Address (Insert complete mailing address, including country)			
13d	Typewritten Full Name of Sole or Fourth Inventor			
		Given Name	Middle Name	Family Name
14d	Inventor's Signature			
15d	Date of Signature			
		Month	Day	Year
16d	Residence			
		City	State or Province	Country
17d	Citizenship			
18d	Post Office Address (Insert complete mailing address, including country)			

*Note to Inventor: Please sign name on line 15 exactly as it appears in line 14 and insert the actual date of signing on line 16. If there are more than four inventors, please add a copy of this page for identification and signatures for the additional inventors.